Board as Secretary, to issue policy guidelines and to oversee the functioning of Railway Recruitment Boards;

(ii) to terminate the services of all adhoc non-Railway Chairmen and repartriate all serving Railway Officers in Selection/Junior Administrative Grades working on adhoc basis as Chairmen/ RRBs;

(iii) to fill up the post of Chairmen/ RRBs by serving Senior Administrative Grade Railway Officers from Zonal Railway except two posts of Chairmen of RRBs at Chandigarh and Jammu-Srinagar presently held by UPSC selected incumbents;

(iv) to replace incumbents of the posts of Member Secretary & Assistant Secretary with serving Railway Officers in appropriate grades and also to replace the group 'C' and 'D' staff of all the RRBs;

(v) to change the practice of associating non-official members belonging to SC/ST, Minority and OBC communities, in the Interview Committees and to revert back to the earlier practice of associating serving Railway Officers belonging to these communities, with the provision that in case of non-availability of serving Railway Officers of the respective communities, State/ Central Govt./P.S.U./Bank Officers belonging to these communities and in case of further difficulty, retired Railway Officers of proven integrity belonging to these communities will be associated.

(vi) to introduce the system of duplicate carbonless. Answer sheets, the duplicate Answer sheets being sent to the RRCB for independent evaluation, as considered necessary; and

(vii) to set up a grievances redressal machinery to deal systematically with various complaints and representations regarding the functioning of the RRBs' and selections conducted by them.

Unmanned level crossings

1162. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned level crossings in different railway zones;

(b) the details thereof; zone-wise;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to man the unmanned level crossings in different zones during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the zone-wise and year-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) to (d) Number of unmanned level crossings in different Railway Zones and number of unmanned level crossings manned in different zones during the last three years are given below:—

S.No.	Railways	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings	Number of Unmanned level Crossings Manned During The Last Three Years		
			1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Central	1528	6	—	16
2.	Eastern	983	—	31	1
3	East Central	743	—	—	—
4	East Coast	339	—	—	5

S.No.	Railways	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings	Number of Unmanned level Crossings Manned During The Last Three Years		
			1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
5.	Northern	4235	—	18	7
6.	North Central	172	—	—	—
7.	North Eastern	2685	3	4	6
8.	Northeast Frontier	1491	—	—	5
9.	North West	406	—	—	—
10.	Southern	1786	—	3	—
11.	South Central	2005	35	4	9
12.	South Eastern	3278	1	2	7
13.	South Western	774	—	—	—
14.	Western	3725	2	—	4
15.	West Central	140	—	—	—
	TOTAL =	24290	47	62	60

Gauge conversion from Rangiya to Murkongselek

1163. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the broad gauge conversion project from Rangiya to Murkongselek in Assam and the total financial allocation made for the project during the current financial year; and

(b) by when the project is envisaged to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) A survey for gauge conversion of Rangiya-Murkongselek has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

ऋषिकेश-कर्णप्रयाग रेल लाइन के निर्माण के लिए सर्वेक्षण

1164. **श्री मनोहरकान्त ध्यानी:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने ऋषिकेश-कर्णप्रयाग रेल लाइन के निर्माण के लिए कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह कार्य पूरा हो गया है तथा इस परियोजना पर कितनी धनराशि व्यय होने का अनुमान है और यह कार्य कितने समय में पूर्ण हो जाएगा; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) से (ग) सर्वेक्षण शुरू कर दिया गया है सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट उपलब्ध होने के बाद इस परियोजना पर आगे विचार करना संभव हो पायेगा।